



March 23, 2021

Nevada Assembly Committee on Education C/O Chair Assemblywoman Shannon Bilbray-Axelrod 401 S Carson Street Carson City, NV 89701

Re: Public Comment for March 23, 2021, Assembly Education Hearing AB194: Revises provisions governing the suspension and expulsion of pupils. (BDR 34-176).

Hello and thank you, Committee Chairwoman Bilbray-Axelrod, and committee members. My name is Dr. Brenda Pearson and I am here representing the Clark County Education Association.

CCEA supports Assembly Bill 194. Overall, this bill provides the much needed due process for student discipline in Nevada's schools. The appeal process, through guidance by the Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment, establishes consistency and transparency. CCEA expressly supports the submission of an annual report of accountability delineating the discipline of pupils, but we would be remiss if we did not stress the importance of utilizing this data to improve practices across our state. The collection of data *must inform actions* that will lead to the reduction of racial disparities. This data is a tool to inform our evolving practices and must be used as such. However, given the amendment to allow for the creation of regulation of timelines, we believes that regulation may be used to determine the best practices for use of this data.

This bill serves as an impactful continuation of our move towards restorative practices, but we **must** also stress a continued focus on building a strong foundational knowledge of restorative practices across our schools in Clark County.

Thank you again to the Committee for hearing this bill. We look forward to continuing our work with Assemblywoman Torres on strengthening restorative practices within our schools.

Respectfully, Brenda Pearson, PhD **Director of Strategic Policy Initiatives** Clark County Education Association